



ARUBA
TODAY

Tuesday
March 7, 2023
T: 582-7800
www.arubatoday.com
facebook.com/arubatoday
instagram.com/arubatoday

Aruba's ONLY English newspaper

The Tom And Gerry Cup
Four men are standing together, one holding a trophy. The text "The Tom And Gerry Cup" is overlaid on the image. Page 8

Biden reelection bid faces resistance from some Democrats

By STEVE PEOPLES
AP National Political Writer
LACONIA, N.H. (AP) — Steve Shurtleff was at Joe Biden's side in 2019 when he filed papers in the New Hampshire State House to run for president. He repeatedly trekked across the state with Biden to court primary voters. And when Biden ultimately won the presidency, it was Shurtleff, then the Democratic state House speaker, who proudly sealed the envelope that carried New Hampshire's four electoral votes — including his own name — to the U.S. Senate. But on the eve of a new election season, Shurtleff, like a majority of Democrats across the country, feels that one term is enough. "In my heart of hearts, no," Shurtleff said when asked if he wants Biden to run again. "I think a lot of people just don't want to say it."



President Joe Biden talks about his nomination of Julie Su to serve as the Secretary of Labor during an event in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

Associated Press

Continued on Page 2

Ice Cream with Drunken Fruits
Sweet & Savory Crêpes
Specialty Coffees

Drunk's Denial
Aruba's only Alcohol Infused Gourmet Café
📍 DrunksDenial
☎ +297 594 3222
📍 Paseo Herencia Mall, Aruba

Ask for our

DRUNKEN CRÊPES
★ BOGO ★
50% OFF
Buy One & Get One 50% Off

OPEN FOR BREAKFAST
MON - thru - SAT 8AM-11PM
SUN 5PM-11PM

Drunken Cakes
Large Cakes For Celebrations

Continued from Front

Democrats across New Hampshire are upset with the Democratic president for trying to end the state's status as home to the first-in-the-nation presidential primary. But their concerns about Biden run much deeper, in line with a majority of Democratic voters nationwide, who question the 80-year-old president's plans to soon launch his re-election campaign.

Just 37% of Democrats nationwide want the president to seek a second term, according to a poll released last month by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. That was down from 52% in the weeks before last year's midterm elections.

Many worry about Biden's age. Others, like Shurtleff, are upset about the administration's messy withdrawal from Afghanistan. And the party's progressive wing has never been enthusiastic about Biden, who is perceived as a moderate, despite his lengthy list of achievements.

The White House cast Biden's perceived weakness within his own party as an exaggerated narrative that he has repeatedly proven wrong.

"We're aware pundits' attitude toward President Biden is unchanged from before he earned the nomination faster than anyone since 2004, won the most votes in American history, built the strongest legislative record in generations and led the best midterm outcome for a new Democratic president in 60 years," Biden spokesman Andrew Bates said. "Based on comparing the accu-



Former Democratic N.H. House Speaker Steve Shurtleff, center, listens to then-Democratic vice presidential candidate Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., right, during a campaign stop, Aug. 12, 2016, in Concord, N.H.

Associated Press

cy of our predictions versus theirs, we are happy for this dynamic to continue."

Still, there's a risk of a disconnect between rank-and-file Democrats and the party's establishment. While voters are signaling unease about the prospect of another Biden campaign, Democratic governors, senators and congressional representatives are virtually unanimous in supporting Biden's reelection. One exception may be New Hampshire, a small swing state whose electoral votes could be critical in a tight general election. The state has challenged Biden before.

Voters here served Biden an embarrassing fifth-place finish in the 2020 Democratic primary. New Hampshire polls were still open when he decamped to South Carolina, where his presidential ambitions were revived by a decisive win.

That state is now Biden's pick to lead the 2024 presidential primary calendar. Interviews with angry New Hampshire Democrats across state government and local Democratic committees suggest there is some appetite for a serious primary challenger in 2024. But top-tier prospects don't seem to be interested.

So far, only Democratic activist and author Marianne Williamson has entered the 2024 primary field. Robert F. Kennedy Jr., the son of the late New York senator and known for railing against vaccines, met with New Hampshire voters on Friday. He's also leaning toward a bid.

But the likes of Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, Biden's fiercest primary challenger in 2020, has vowed to back the president in 2024. So has Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker, whose appearance at last year's New Hampshire's

Democratic convention still comes up in conversation. California Rep. Ro Khanna, a progressive favorite, has also said he would not challenge Biden, although he has been a vocal advocate for New Hampshire's place atop the primary calendar.

Meanwhile, Biden's allies privately believe the primary dispute will be long forgotten by the time voters cast ballots in November 2024, especially with former President Donald Trump or one of his Republican acolytes on the ballot.

Biden supporters also note that some of the nation's most popular two-term presidents confronted opposition from within their own parties ahead of their reelection.

"We had a lot of work to do, but the fundamentals were there," said Stephanie Cutter, who helped managed Obama's 2012 reelection.

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper, a Democrat, attributed Biden's political challenges to Democratic leaders who haven't done enough to promote his accomplishments.

"The real disconnect right now is communication," Cooper said in an interview. "President Biden has accomplished in two years what many presidents would only hope to do in eight. His success has meant real wins for working families. People are going to begin to see real improvement in their lives. It's our job to make sure that they know it was President Biden who got it done."

"Democrats came together once before in 2020 to ask him to do a job, and he accomplished it — he beat President Trump," Cooper added. "And now he's gonna do it again."

Despite such optimism, Democrats across New Hampshire believe it will be difficult for Biden to match his 2020 victory of 7 percentage points in the state in 2024. Former Gov. John Lynch, a Democrat, declined to say whether he wanted Biden to seek reelection when asked directly.

Biden's push to change the primary calendar, Lynch said, has created such anti-Biden furor that it puts New Hampshire's four electoral votes at risk in the 2024 general election. He was quick to note that four electoral votes would have tipped the 2000 presidential election in Al Gore's favor.

"It could cost Democrats the presidency," Lynch said. "Republicans won't let voters forget. They'll hammer the Democrats on this." □



In this Oct. 15, 2020 file photo, Hawaii resident Ryan Sidlow carries his son Maxwell as their family boards a United Airlines flight to Hawaii at San Francisco International Airport in San Francisco.

Associated Press

In 'junk fee' fight, U.S. details airline family seating rules

Associated Press

The Transportation Department is rolling out a "dashboard" to let travelers see at a glance which airlines help families with young children sit together at no extra cost.

The announcement Monday comes as the department works on regulations to prevent families from be-

ing separated on planes. It's the latest salvo in the Biden administration's efforts to clamp down on what it calls "junk fees" and to put pressure on airlines to improve service.

The dashboard rewards airlines with a green check if they guarantee that an adult family member can sit next to their young children

if seats are available. On Monday, only three of the 10 U.S. airlines listed on the website received a green check: Alaska, American and Frontier. The site also includes links to each airline's customer policies. Last month, Frontier Airlines said it would automatically seat at least one parent next to any child under 14.

Made in the USA? Proposed rule clarifies grocery meat labels

By JONEL ALECCIA

AP Health Writer

Shoppers could soon find it easier to tell if those grocery store steaks or pork chops were really "Made in the USA."

Federal agriculture officials on Monday released new requirements that would allow labels on meat, poultry or eggs to use that phrase -- or "Product of USA" -- only if they come from animals "born, raised, slaughtered and processed in the United States." That's a sharp change from current policy, which allows voluntary use of such labels on products from animals that have been imported from a foreign country and slaughtered in the U.S., but also on meat that's been imported and repackaged or further processed.

Imports of beef from countries including Australia, Canada and Brazil, for instance, account for about 12% of the total consumed in the U.S. Overall, imports of red meat and poultry account for less than 6%, while imports of eggs account for less than half of 1%.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said the proposed rule would better align the la-



In this photo made on June 16, 2022, rows of fresh cut beef is in the coolers of the retail section at the Wight's Meat Packing facility in Fombell, Pa.

Associated Press

bels with consumers' views. A survey commissioned by the USDA found that nearly two-thirds of shoppers believed that a "Product of USA" label meant that most or all meat production steps occurred in the U.S. "There's obviously a disconnect between what the consumers' understandings and expectations are and what the label currently is," Vilsack said in an interview.

About 12% of all meat, poultry and egg products sold in the country carry the U.S.-origin labels, USDA officials said.

The label change was first proposed by President Joe Biden in 2021 and was included last year in a series of steps to bolster the U.S. meat and poultry supply chain.

The USDA survey, conducted last summer, included

a nationally representative sample of more than 4,800 American adults who do the grocery shopping for their families and who bought beef or pork in the previous six months. More than 40% of the shoppers said they look for the USA label when buying meat. The rule was praised by consumer advocates and representatives for U.S. ranchers and farmers, in-

cluding the U.S. Cattlemen's Association, which petitioned the USDA for the label change in 2019.

"The proposed rule finally closes this loophole by accurately defining what these voluntary origin claims mean," said Justin Tupper, the group's president. "If it says 'Made in the USA,' then it should be from cattle that have only known USA soil. Consumers have the right to know where their food comes from, full stop."

Thomas Gremillion, director of food policy for the Consumer Federation of America, said the change is a "small but important step" that should have been made long ago.

Under the current rule, Gremillion noted, a cow can be raised in Mexico under that country's regulations for feed and medications, then shipped across the border and slaughtered that same day to make ground beef and steaks that qualify as "Product of USA."

Carrie Balkcom, executive director of the trade group American Grassfed Association, said the existing rule also penalizes small domestic producers. □

Several GOP states pull out of effort to thwart voter fraud

By CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Election officials in Florida, Missouri and West Virginia said Monday they are withdrawing from a bipartisan, multi-state effort aimed at ensuring the accuracy of voter rolls that has found itself in the crosshairs of conspiracy theories fueled by Donald Trump's false claims about the 2020 presidential election.

The system to thwart voter fraud known as the Electronic Registration Information Center, or ERIC, has become a target of suspicion among some Republicans after a series of online posts early last year questioning its funding and purpose.

Louisiana withdrew last year and Alabama is in the process of doing so. Mis-

souri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft said Monday that he had been pushing the group to address concerns by him and others.

"It appears that ERIC will not make the necessary changes to address these concerns, therefore, it is time to move on," Ashcroft said in a statement.

West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner said he did not expect the departure from the program to affect his state's ability to maintain accurate voter rolls. Florida's secretary of state, who is appointed by the governor, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Shane Hamlin, the group's executive director, confirmed the three states had provided notice to withdraw.

"We will continue our work on behalf of our remaining member states in improving the accuracy of America's voter rolls and increasing access to voter registration for all eligible citizens," Hamlin said in a statement. The program was started in 2012 by seven states and was bipartisan from the beginning, with four of the founding states led by Republicans. After the states officially depart, participation will be limited to 28 states and the District of Columbia.

The departures have frustrated state election officials involved in the effort and have demonstrated how deeply election conspiracies have spread throughout the Republican Party.

"Election officials who pull



A poll worker prepares to give a ballot to a voter at the Blue Ash, Ohio Municipal building for the primary, Aug. 2, 2022.

Associated Press

out of ERIC are primarily harming their own state's ability to keep their voter list accurate," Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson said in a statement Monday to The Associated Press. "It's odd and disturb-

ing to me that any official would choose validating misinformation over being part of a collaborative that has the sole and well-established purpose of improving the integrity of our elections." □

Dozens face domestic terrorism charges in Georgia incident

By **JEFF MARTIN** and **JEFF AMY**

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — More than 20 people from around the country faced domestic terrorism charges Monday after dozens of young men in black masks attacked the site of a police training center under construction in a wooded area outside Atlanta that has become the flashpoint of conflict between authorities and left-leaning protesters.

Two of those arrested are from Georgia but the others hail from around the country, police said. One suspect is from France and another is from Canada, according to police, who did not release further details about the suspects.

Flaming bottles and rocks were thrown at officers during a protest Sunday at "Cop City," where 26-year-old environmental activist Manuel Esteban Paez Terán, or "Tortugueta," was shot to death by officers at a protest in January. Police said Tortugueta attacked them, a version other activists have questioned.

From a Venezuelan family, Tortugueta was dedicated to preserving the environment, friends and family said. Those ideals clashed with Atlanta's hopes of building a \$90 million At-



This image provided by the Atlanta Police Department shows construction equipment set on fire Saturday, March 4, 2023 by a group protesting the planned public safety training center, according to police.

lanta Public Safety Training Center that would boost police preparedness morale in the wake of violent protests that roiled the country after George Floyd's death in 2020.

Now, authorities and young people are embroiled in a clash that appears to have little to do with other high-profile conflicts.

Protesters against what detractors call "Cop City" run the gamut from more traditional environmentalists to young, self-styled anarchists seeking clashes with what they see as an unjust society.

Demonstrations spread to downtown Atlanta on Jan. 21, when a police cruiser was set ablaze, rocks were thrown and fireworks were launched at a skyscraper that houses the Atlanta Police Foundation. Windows were shattered.

On Sunday, Atlanta Police Chief Darin Schierbaum said at a midnight news conference, several pieces of construction equipment were set on fire in what he called "a coordinated attack" at the site for the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center in DeKalb County.

Surveillance video released

by police show a piece of heavy equipment in flames. It was among multiple pieces of construction gear that were destroyed, police said. Protesters threw rocks, bricks, Molotov cocktails, and fireworks at police, officials said.

Officers used nonlethal enforcement methods to disperse the crowd and make arrests, Schierbaum said, causing "some minor discomfort."

Demonstrators tried to blind officers by shining green lasers into their eyes, and used tires and debris to block a road, the Georgia

Department of Public Safety said Monday. Along with classrooms and administrative buildings, the training center would include a shooting range, a driving course to practice chases and a "burn building" for firefighters to work on putting out fires. A "mock village" featuring a fake home, convenience store and nightclub would also be built for rehearsing raids. Opponents have said the site will be used to practice "urban warfare." Opponents say that building the 85-acre (34-hectare) training center would involve cutting down so many trees that it would be environmentally damaging.

Atlanta Mayor Andre Dickens has said that the facilities will be built on a site that was cleared decades ago for a former state prison farm. He said the tract is filled with rubble and overgrown with invasive species, not hardwood trees. The mayor also said that while the facility would be built on 85 acres, about 300 others would be preserved as a public greenspace.

Many activists also oppose spending millions on a police facility that would be surrounded by poor neighborhoods in a city with one of the nation's highest degrees of inequality. □

Florida bill would force bloggers to register with state



State Sen. Jason Brodeur, R-Sanford, sits at his desk in the Florida Senate, May 24, 2022 at the Capitol in Tallahassee, Fla.

Associated Press

By **ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE**

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A Republican lawmaker in Florida wants bloggers who write about elected

officials to register with the state, raising concern among First Amendment groups who are calling the proposal unconstitutional. The bill, filed by Sen. Ja-

son Brodeur of Lake Mary, would require bloggers to file periodic reports with the state if they are paid for posts about the state's governor, lieutenant governor, cabinet members or legislative officials.

Bloggers would have to disclose who paid them and how much, along with other information such as where the post is located online. They would be fined \$25 per each day the report is late, up to a maximum of \$2,500 for each report. The legislation would not apply to content on "the website of a newspaper or other similar publication."

The proposal, filed last week, has already begun to draw criticism from First

Amendment groups who argue it violates press freedoms.

"The only thing that I can see is that it's an attempt to limit and control free speech," said Bobby Block, executive director of the First Amendment Foundation. "It's an attempt to bring critics to heel and it's an attempt to make sure that people who want to talk about you think real hard before they do so."

It is unclear how far the proposal will go in the GOP-controlled statehouse during the upcoming legislative session, which begins Tuesday. The Associated Press reached out to Brodeur as well as Republican leaders of the House and

Senate and a spokesman for Gov. Ron DeSantis for comment.

In a Twitter post, Brodeur said the bill is aimed at bringing transparency to blogs that advocate or lobby for specific causes. The text of his bill states that it would apply to any blogger who is paid to write about elected officials in Florida.

"Do you want to know the truth about the so-called 'blogger' bill?" Brodeur's post reads. "It brings the current pay-to-play scheme to light and gives voters clarity as to who is influencing their elected officials, JUST LIKE how we treat lobbyists. It's an electioneering issue, not a free speech issue." □

U.K. aims to deport Channel migrants, but critics skeptical

By JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The British government said Monday it will introduce legislation to ban anyone who arrives in the U.K. in small boats across the English Channel from ever settling in the country.

The government said a bill — expected to be announced Tuesday — will bar asylum claims by anyone who reaches Britain by unauthorized means, and will compel the government to detain and then deport them “to their home country or a safe third country.” Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said the law would stop the “immoral” business of smuggling gangs who send desperate people on hazardous journeys across one of the world’s busiest shipping lanes.

Critics say the plan is unethical and unworkable, since people fleeing war and persecution can’t be sent home, and is likely to be the latest in a series of unfulfilled immigration pledges by successive U.K. governments.

Britain receives fewer asylum-seekers than some European nations — nine per 100,000 people in 2021, compared to a European Union average of 16 per 100,000. But thousands of migrants from around the world travel to northern France each year in hopes



A group of people thought to be migrants are brought in to Dover, Kent, onboard a Border Force vessel following a small boat incident in the Channel, England, Monday March 6, 2023.

Associated Press

of reaching the U.K.

Most attempt the journey in dinghies and other small craft now that authorities have clamped down on other routes such as stowing away on buses or trucks. More than 45,000 people arrived in Britain by boat in 2022, up from 28,000 in 2021 and 8,500 in 2020. Most went on to claim asylum, but a backlog of more than 160,000 cases has led to many languishing in overcrowded processing centers or hotels, without the right to work.

Protesters, some aligned with far-right groups, have demonstrated outside hotels housing asylum-seekers.

One protest near Liverpool last month descended into violence, with demonstrators setting a police van on fire.

The channel journey can be as little as 30 miles (42 kilometers), and is less dangerous than migration routes across the Mediterranean, where at least 70 people died in a shipwreck on Feb. 26 off Italy’s southern coast. But dozens of people have died in the channel, including at least 27 in a November 2021 sinking of an overcrowded boat.

The British government says many of those making the journey are economic migrants rather than refugees,

and points to an upswing last year in arrivals from Albania, a European country that the U.K. considers safe. Refugee groups say most of the channel arrivals are fleeing war, persecution or famine in countries including Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq. A majority of those whose claims have been processed were granted asylum in the U.K.

Sunak has made stopping the boats one of his “five pledges” to voters, alongside halving inflation, kick-starting economic growth, slashing the national debt and cutting health care waiting lists.

But previous headline-

grabbing immigration policies have run into opposition. A plan announced last year to send migrants arriving in Britain on a one-way trip to Rwanda is mired in legal challenges.

Cooperation with France on stopping the boats stalled amid Britain’s acrimonious split from the European Union, though U.K.-EU relations have improved since Sunak took office in October. The U.K. and France signed an agreement in November to increase police patrols on beaches in northern France, and Sunak hopes to cement further cooperation when he meets Macron at a U.K.-France summit on Friday.

Sunak also faces pressure from right-wingers inside his Conservative Party, who have called for tougher measures, including pulling Britain out of the European Convention on Human Rights. The government says it has no plan to leave the convention.

Refugee charities and human rights groups say many migrants risk the cross-channel journey because there are few safe, legal ways to reach the U.K. The government says it will establish more legal asylum programs — adding to those set up for Afghanistan, Hong Kong and Ukraine — but has yet to give details. □

European police, FBI bust international cybercrime gang

By FRANK JORDANS

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — German police said Monday they have disrupted a ransomware cybercrime gang tied to Russia that has been blackmailing large companies and institutions for years, raking in millions of euros. Working with law enforcement partners including Europol, the FBI and authorities in Ukraine, police in Duesseldorf said they were able to identify 11 individuals linked to a group that has operated in various guises since at least 2010.

The gang allegedly behind the ransomware, known as DoppelPaymer, appears tied to Evil Corp, a Russia-based syndicate engaged in online bank theft well before ransomware became a global scourge.

Among its most prominent victims were Britain’s National Health Service and Duesseldorf University Hospital, whose computers were infected with DoppelPaymer in 2020. A woman who needed urgent treatment died after she had to be taken to another city for treatment. Ransomware is

the world’s most disruptive cybercrime. Gangs mostly based in Russia break into networks and steal sensitive information before activating malware that scrambles data. The criminals demand payment in exchange for decryption keys and a promise not to dump the stolen data online.

An analyst with the cybersecurity firm Emsisoft, Brett Callow, said DoppelPaymer has published data stolen from about 200 companies, including in the U.S. defense sector, which resisted payment. And given



Dirk Kunze, right, Head of Department 42 at the North Rhine-Westphalia State Criminal Police Office, and Markus Hartmann, Head of the North Rhine-Westphalia Cybercrime Central and Contact Point, answer questions during a press conference in Duesseldorf, Germany, Monday, March 6, 2023.

Associated Press

DoppelPaymer’s suspected connection through Evil Corp to the FSB — the successor to Russia’s KGB spy

agency — “the bust could provide law enforcement with some exceptionally valuable intel,” he said. □

Belarus sentences exiled opposition leader to 15 years

By YURAS KARMANAU

TALLINN, Estonia (AP) — A court in Belarus on Monday sentenced exiled opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya to 15 years in prison after a trial in absentia on charges including conspiring to overthrow the government, the latest move in a months-long effort by the Belarusian government to suppress dissent.

Tsikhanouskaya ran against authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko in Aug. 2020, in an election that handed him his sixth term in office and was widely seen as rigged. She called her conviction and sentence an act of vengeance by Belarusian authorities and vowed to continue to “fight for freedom.” The results of the vote triggered the largest protests in the country's history. Lukashenko unleashed a brutal crackdown on demonstrators, accusing the opposition of plotting to overthrow the government, and Tsikhanouskaya left to Lithuania under pressure. Other key politicians and activists were either arrested or pressured to leave the country.

Tsikhanouskaya and four other opposition figures were tried in their absence in the Belarusian capital, Minsk. Photos from the courtroom, released by Belarus' state news agency



Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, leader of the Democratic Forces of Belarus, speaks at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland on Jan. 19, 2023.

Associated Press

Belta, showed an empty defendants' cage. The charges against them also included creating and leading an extremist group, inciting hatred and harming national security. Tsikhanouskaya told the Associated Press in an interview that her court-appointed lawyer hasn't been in touch with her once during the trial and has not responded to her requests to review the case files. She charged that the law and the justice system in Belarus no longer work, and the state “has turned into one big KGB.” “The regime takes revenge

on me and all Belarusians — it takes revenge for the fact that we chose freedom in 2020, for not resigning, not giving in, but continuing to fight,” Tsikhanouskaya said. “If Lukashenko could, he would have jailed everyone,” she added. In addition to the prison sentence, Tsikhanouskaya was ordered to pay a fine of about \$11,000. Another exiled opposition politician, Pavel Latushka, was sentenced to 18 years in prison. Latushka, who once served as Belarus' minister of culture and then as ambassador in several European nations, was also barred

for five years from holding public office. Maryya Maroz, Volha Kavalkova and Siarhei Dylevski were handed 12-year sentences. All of them left Belarus after the protests erupted in August 2020. The demonstrations were the largest and the most sustained since Lukashenko assumed office in 1994. He has run the country with an iron fist ever since. His government unleashed a brutal crackdown against the protesters, detaining more than 35,000 and beating thousands. The country's most prominent human rights advo-

cate and the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Ales Bialiatski, was among those arrested. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison last week.

Tsikhanouskaya ran against Lukashenko instead of her husband, popular opposition politician Siarhei Tsikhanouski who was arrested in the middle of his campaign in 2020 and has been sentenced to 18 years in prison. Last month, a court in Belarus added 18 more months to Tsikhanouski's sentence over alleged violations of prison regulations.

Tsikhanouski maintained his innocence during the trial that was held behind closed doors, according to the Viasna human rights center, Belarus' most prominent rights group. For two months, the politician was held “in inhumane conditions” in an isolation cell, the group said.

Viasna has counted a total of 1,456 political prisoners in Belarus.

Tsikhanouskaya said that repression in Belarus is intensifying, and every day 15-20 people in the country are being jailed, which “shows how little confidence the regime has in itself.”

“If Lukashenko thinks that this jailing regime will stop me, will stop the Belarusians, it is mistaken — we will continue to fight for freedom all the more actively,” she said. □



In this picture released by the official website of the office of the Iranian supreme leader, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei speaks after planting a tree marking National Tree Planting Day, at the courtyard of his office in Tehran, Iran, Monday, March 6, 2023.

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Iran's supreme leader said Monday that if a series of suspected poi-

sonings at girls' schools are proven to be deliberate the culprits should be sentenced to death for com-

Iran leader: Those who poisoned schoolgirls deserve death

mitting an “unforgivable crime.” It was the first time Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has the final say on all matters of state, has spoken publicly about the suspected poisonings, which began late last year and have sickened hundreds of children. Iranian officials only acknowledged them in recent weeks and have provided no details on who may be behind the attacks or what chemicals — if any — have been used. Unlike neighboring Afghanistan, Iran has no history of reli-

gious extremists targeting women's education.

“If the poisoning of students is proven, those behind this crime should be sentenced to capital punishment and there will be no amnesty for them,” Khamenei said, according to the state-run IRNA news agency.

Authorities have acknowledged suspected attacks at more than 50 schools across 21 of Iran's 30 provinces since November. Iran's Interior Minister Ahmad Vahidi said over the weekend that “suspicious samples” had been gath-

ered by investigators, without elaborating. He called on the public to remain calm and accused unnamed enemies of inciting fear to undermine the Islamic Republic. Vahidi said at least 52 schools had been affected by suspected poisonings, while Iranian media reports have put the number of schools at over 60. At least one boy's school reportedly has been affected. Videos of upset parents and schoolgirls in emergency rooms with IVs in their arms have flooded social media. □

Minister of Finance meets with FITCH for financial and economic evaluation of Aruba

(Oranjestad)—Last week, Minister of Finance, Xiomara Maduro, met with rating company FITCH, who these days are making a financial and economic evaluation of Aruba in order to provide an insight for future investors on the credibility of the island nation's finance, expressed through a rating.

During the meeting, Minister Maduro, along with professionals from the Department of Finance, gave a presentation that gives an overview of the financial and economic situation of Aruba. She explained the economic recovery on the island following the pandemic; the Tax Plan 2023 that has already been



implementing; overview of the jobs that correspond with the "Landspakket"; the financial supervision of CAFT and the businesses to refinance the debt to The Netherlands for their help with the costs of the pandemic.

FITCH also met with different people and instances on the island to hear their side and to hear how they see the development and recovery of Aruba. At the end, FITCH met with Prime Minister Wever-Croes and



Minister Maduro in order to learn more about the political management which is also of utmost importance for stabilizing the rating for Aruba.

FITCH's evaluation report can be expected at the

end of March. Minister Maduro hopes that the Aruba's economic recovery and the dedication that the government showed in attending to financial challenges of our island can be reflected in the "investing" rating of FITCH. □

Prime Minister Wever-Croes meets with young female students at Culture Café in San Nicolas for International Women's Day

(Oranjestad)—In light of International Women's Day, Prime Minister Evelyn Wever-Croes recently met with a few female students at Culture Café in San Nicolas. The prime minister expressed that this meeting was sincerely "super super" beautiful, where several students from secondary schools like Colegio San Augustin, Filomena College, Abraham de Veer, Colegio Nigel Matthew and EPB were all present. During this meeting, there were ideas interchanged, especially those related to women.

This year's theme for International Women's Day is "to empower women through innovation and



digitalization" and it is very important to know what young women think of this topic. This was also a central theme during the meet-

ing. Additionally, there were other topics discussed in relation to women and womanhood.

Students happy with the meeting with the prime minister

At the end of the meeting, students who participated

were very happy and satisfied with the meeting with the prime minister and expressed that it was very interest and an overall "nice" experience where a lot was learned about International Women's Day. Students were glad to have had an opportunity to speak with the prime minister. They considered the meeting a "safe place" where they were able to express their opinions and feelings with the prime minister.

"It was a very inspiring afternoon, because the ladies were well-prepared and they know exactly what they want. They also recognized the importance for these kinds of talks and meeting and this will certainly not be the last. I'm thankful for the schools' principals for their cooperation with this meeting. I'd also like to thank the young ladies who attended and their parents for their cooperation. I will take this memory with me and work on some important points brought forth by the girls," the prime minister expressed. □





Bring this coupon and get:

10% OFF

[Not valid in conjunction with other promotions]

OPEN HOURS
Tuesday – Sunday
5:30 pm – 10:30 pm

Palm Beach 23 | Tel. +297 586-0077 | solemarearuba@gmail.com

RISTORANTE

SOLE MARE

italianissimo



Scan here to see our menu

solemarearuba.com

The Tom And Gerry Cup

During the Month of February Costa Linda hosts Horse shoe tournaments in co-ordination with a group of owners.

The 12th Tom and Gary Cup took place on March 1st 2023. This was organized by Mr Tom and Mr Gerry themselves. We had around 14 players competing this year.

Players and bystanders had

a great morning and afternoon with refreshments, sandwiches and chips.

This year's winners were Jack Hall and Robert Badavas and second place goes to Klaus Burchhardt and David Fair.

Congratulations to the winners and Thank you to all who participated. We can't wait for next year's cup. □



The Grand Fish

The Best Fresh Seafood on The Island

Free Glass of Wine with this coupon!!

Open from 11am till 10pm Closed on Tuesday

Tel. +297-280.1515 | Taratata Road 15 unit #1



beauty & THE BEACH

Aruba Today is delighted to share to its readers a new segment called "Beauty and the Beach", where we take a minute to honor our guests who have decided to spend their vacation on our beautiful and warm island.

In this edition, we'd like to give a shout out to **Mila and Leon from New York in the US**, who said that they love the people and the beaches of the island. Aruba is always proud to host all families and guests. We at Aruba Today encourage any visitor of the island to send in their pictures and/or messages; who knows? You might get on the cover!



Alhambra

CASINO AND SHOPS

casinoalhambra.com



BINGO IS BACK EVERY THURSDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY!



**Earn
DOUBLE POINTS
all day long!**

Use your Players' Club card
to play our slots and we'll
DOUBLE your points!

**THE SHOPS
AT ALHAMBRA CASINO**

Offering a wide variety of Retail & Dining Outlets,
Salon & Spa Services, Souvenirs and more.

Dunkin Donuts | Baskin Robbins | Fusion Piano & Wine Bar
Hungry Piranha | Twist of Flavors | Juan Valdez Café
The Brownstone Ribs & Seafood
Coming Soon: Auntie Anne's Pretzels



Open daily 10am to 3am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 | 583.5000 | casinoalhambra.com

Play Responsibly. Visit www.gamblersanonymous.org if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.



Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Renaissance Ocean Suites Aruba

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently recognized the recognized Goodwill and Emerald Ambassadors of Aruba. Presenting the Ambassadors with the respective certification as a token of appreciation. The honoring certification program is granted to ambassadors, to recognize, the loyalty, friendships, and visits to Aruba. For consecutively choosing Aruba as their preferred vacation destination each year.

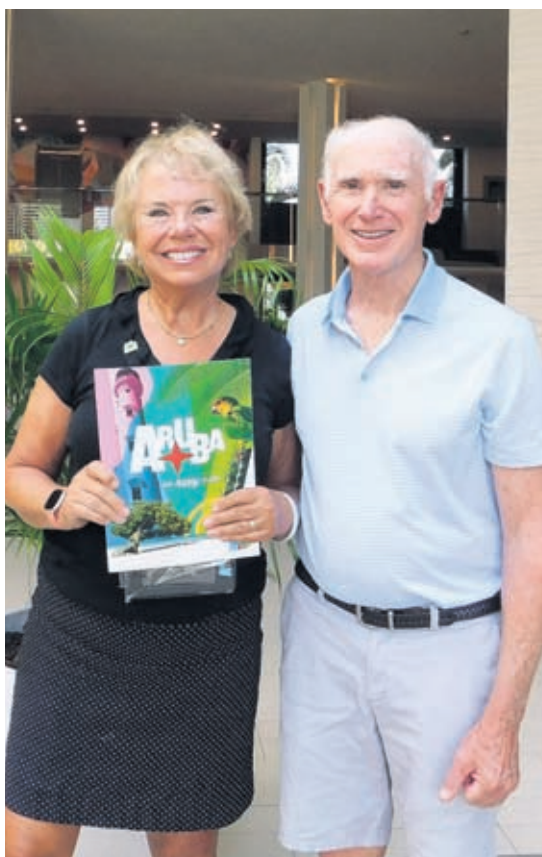
The Honoring certification program has three levels, which are divided according to the quantity of consecutive years visiting the island.

Honoring Levels:

- Distinguished Ambassadors: 10> years
- Goodwill Ambassadors: 20> years
- Emerald Ambassadors: 35> years

Honorees were:

Goodwill Ambassadors 20> years:



Deborah Rohe resident of New York, United States (has been coming for 30 years consecutively).

Neal & Janine Salvey resident of Connecticut, United States (have been coming for 20 years consecutively).

Emerald Ambassadors 35> years:

Joanne Rohe resident of New York, United States (has been coming for 38 years consecutively).

Ms. Olga Ruiz representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and members of the Renaissance Ocean Suites Aruba bestowed the certification of the Ambassador. The honorees were presented with the Goodwill and Emerald Certification, and with memorable gifts of Aruba.

On behalf of the Government of Aruba, we would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to family Rohe and Salvey for making Aruba their preferred vacation destination for so many years. We are so thankful to have had you as our visitor-safer all these years! Aruba is unquestionably your home away from home!

Top 5 reason for returning to Aruba, provided by the honorees were:

Mrs. Deborah Rohe reasons:

1. The people
2. Sun
3. Fun
4. Diving
5. Snorkeling

Mr. Neal & Mrs. Janine Salvey reasons:


1. Amazing hospitality/friendliness
2. Safety
3. Weather
4. Beaches
5. Cleanliness

Mrs. Joanne Rohe reasons:

1. The sun
2. Weather
3. People
4. Friends
5. Memories



Pinchos Grill & Bar




Open: Daily

From: 5:00pm to 10:00pm


Tel.: 583-2666

Website: www.pinchosaruba.com



THE WEST DECK

ISLAND GRILL • BEACH BAR




Open: Daily for Lunch and Dinner

From: 10:30 am to 10:00 pm

Tel.: 587-2667

Website: www.thewestdeck.com



History of fishing in Aruba

ORANJESTAD — Fishing has been a family tradition for ages in Aruba. Our ancestors used to fish for a living. Even though nowadays you don't see them often we still have some passionate fishermen on the island that go out every day in search for fish to feed their families and serve our local market. One of these fisherman is Gregory Wernet.

The so-called Continental Bank between Aruba and the opposite coast reaches a depth of about 650 feet. The sea is very rich in fish here. Since the time of the indigenous native people fish and other sea creatures such as turtles, octopus squids, conch and many type of crustaceans have formed a means of subsistence for the native Aruban inhabitants. Especially along the west coast of the island where the fishing grounds are settlements of fishermen. Until the arrival of the oil -industry Aruban fishermen could supply Aruba's wants.

As a source of income, however, fishing did not amount too much. In the beginning of the 1900's approximately 160 people earn their living in this branch of this industry. Rancho, which stands for a shed, nowadays east Oranjestad, was the head

quarter and remains the fishermen's settlement. Savaneta, Noord, Santa Cruz all had their fishermen's villages. At a rough estimate there were about a hundred small fishing boats during that time.

The Arubans were mainly engaged in coastal fishing, using rowing-boats or small sailing-boats, and lines or dragnets and canisters in shallow water. When fishing with deep-sea lines just over the bottom of the sea the boat is kept in place by means of a piece of rock serving as an anchor. The two most important species of fish by far caught in this manner are the pargo or red snappers and a variety of groupers like the mero, jeanpao and the wowo di boyo.

Cruising off the coast the Aruban fisherman patiently waits for a fish willing to snap at the bait on the drag-line, in nets and traps. Veritable giants are sometimes caught. Barracudas weigh from 9 to 44 pounds and measure from 3 to almost 7 feet. The king-fish has a weight from 22 to 44 pounds; the moclat may tip the scales at 155, whilst garfish, having a length of nine feet, weigh over 132 pounds.

Most fish caught is used for their own consumption, to feed their families and



some are being sold in the market to local restaurants.

Fisherman Gregory Wernet

Gregory Wernet is a well-known fisherman from Santa Cruz. His father taught him fishing when he was a small child. Gregory has two sons, Jordan and Jordanny, which he taught fishing too, when they were only 3 years old and he takes them fishing with him. Fishing has been a family tradition for quite a long time and even his grandson Willvion of 7 years old is following his grandfather steps. This is the sixth generation of fishermen in their family.

They go deep sea fishing. There they catch red snap-

per, grouper and amberjack. They usually fish for 15 hours a day, but now due to the covid-19 measurements they go fishing from 5 in the morning until 8 o'clock at night or even sometimes from 8 at night till 5 in the morning. The day before they prepare all their fishing tools such as the Lines, lures, spears, and load their boat with fishing reels, batteries, fill the gasoline tank, lights and some food and beverages. For bait he uses sardines, squid and the small fish known in Aruba as piskechi. The have two boats they use for fishing. 'Virgen del Valle' which is parked at the pier by the Seaport and 'Padrot' which they have at

home.

The fish they catch they take home to their families and they also sell it to their clients. Gregory is proud to be a fisherman. It is a honest and humble job but with it he is able to feed his family even during hard times. It is a very dangerous job and you have to spend many hours on the sea, waiting patiently and risking your life while fighting a big fish and big waves but the adrenaline it brings with it but also just sitting there listening to the sound of the waves and enjoying the marvelous view that nature has to offer is all worth it. □

Source: Etnia Nativa



Don't forget to visit Aruba's famous Red Anchor

At the south east coast of the island, standing alone on a windswept and barren land stands a popular Aruba landmark – a large anchor. It overlooks the sea just beyond, watching over the shipping lanes. It stands there in memory and in honor of all seamen who have lost their life at sea.

Where to Find the Anchor?

The anchor is a “must see” landmark when you visit Aruba. It is among the most photographed historical landmarks for the island. You want to make sure you add this stop on your itinerary when your visiting the south coast of Aruba. The bright red anchor against the backdrop of the deep blue Caribbean sea and the azure blue skies, make a great backdrop for your vacation pictures.

The anchor is located at the entrance to Gate 6 to the former Lago Colony. It is on the outskirts of Seroe Colorado, on the south east point of the island at the “T” junction to Baby Beach.

Depending on where you are staying on the island, follow the signs that indicate the way to Baby Beach. Once you reach the T-junction, it will be right in front of you.

About the Anchor

Size

It will be hard to miss the anchor, it's huge! The anchor that weighs 21,772 kilos, is approximately 10 feet 6 inches wide and 15 feet, 6 inches tall.

On the anchor there are some numbers. The 4112 and 4115, which are believed to be the serial numbers that refer to the “fluke” or horizontal and vertical parts of the anchor, respectively. The number 21772K refers to the weight of the anchor in kilos.

This type of anchor was manufactured



by Hoesch Dortmund Horde, at a foundry located in Germany.

Where did the Anchor Come From?

There are a number of stories as to the origins of the anchor, which one do you think it was? (Unfortunately the mystery has never been solved, so your imagination can pick which one you think it might be!)

Story 1:

“According to Mr. Manuel M. Curiel, an ex-Lago Tug Captain, a fully laden VLCC (Very Large Crude Carrier) was seeking a mooring at the 15-mile anchorage, known as Bara, on the southern part of the island. This is the usual shallow mooring location for ships awaiting orders, etc. The weather was rough with strong current. The normal procedure is that they would walk out three shackles (about 90 feet) until the anchor touches the bottom while the chain must rest on the bottom. Subsequently, they will walk out some extra shackles and when the ship starts to swing or lean on one side, the anchor is properly set. Because of the rough weather, unfortunately they did not

get the time to walk out the extra tackles and because of the tension exerted on the winch, it broke, and they lost the anchor and its chain.”

Story 2:

“Mr. Curiel also said that at one time a small tanker with a Korean crew, while lifting their anchor also lifted another anchor near the inner harbor. When the ship asked for assistance, he went with his tugboat along with a barge, to help. But eventually they had to cut the chain and let the anchor go to the bottom because they could not untangle them.”

How Did The Anchor Become a Landmark?

Sometime between 1980 and 1985, three gentlemen (Mr. Wim Martinus – the Harbormaster of Aruba; Mr. August Genser – the ex-Division Superintendent of Lago's Laboratory; and Mr. Willie Davis – Owner of Filtec at Zeewijk in San Nicolas), were having a conversation with Mr. Charlie Brouns Jr. at his famous Charlie's Bar and Restaurant in San Nicolas. Charlie, who was a visionary and had dreams for developing the San Nicolas area, told these gentle-

men that he would like to come up with something innovative for the San Nicolas area to draw tourism to the area.

The “anchor”, which at that time was being stored at the Oranjestad harbor, was suggested as an option. Charlie liked the idea! He then contacted the President of Lago for permission to acquire the anchor. He was granted permission and the anchor was then relocated to its present location and dedicated “To All Seamen” on the occasion of the closing of the Lago Oil Refinery on March 31, 1985.

Through the Years

Through the years the Anchor was slowly weathering from the wind and salt. As time passed, sadly the origin and purpose of the anchor slowly faded away from people's memories.

After Charles Brouns Jr died on September 15, 2004, his friend Mr. Sam Speziale, requested assistance from the management of Valero Aruba Refinery to help maintain the monument. The Valero Aruba Refinery, graciously sandblasted and painted the anchor

and poured a concrete pad around it. On April 17, 2005, the anchor monument was rededicated “To All Seamen” in a formal ceremony in memory of Charles Brouns Jr.

Today, the anchor stands both as memorial to all seaman who have lost their lives at sea, but also as a silent reminder that Seroe Colorado is part of San Nicolas and that San Nicolas is still a vibrant and important part of the island of Aruba.

The Best Time to Visit

When your planning your visit to the south end of the island, you will want to include in your itinerary the many things to see and do there. The anchor will be just one of these stops, (keep an eye out for our future editions, we publish our recommendations!).

With that being said, I have to say, if you enjoy catching a sunrise, the anchor is one of the best places on the island to catch the sunrise. But in reality, anytime is a good time to visit, depending on your personal schedule. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

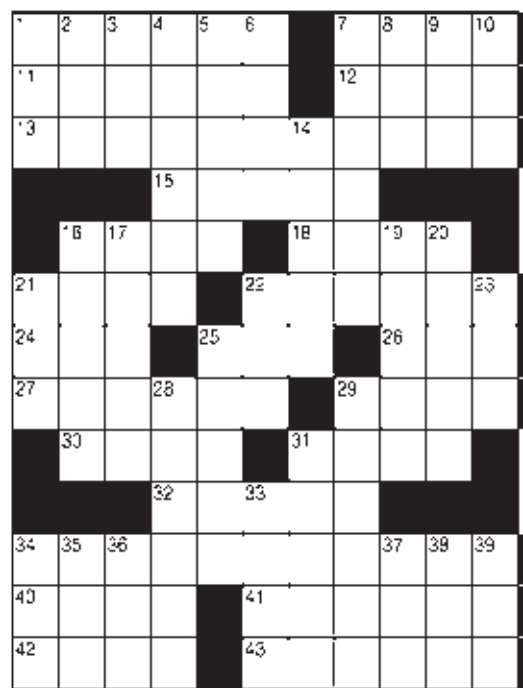
- 1 Nautical unit
- 7 Marsh hopper
- 11 Large lizard
- 12 See 8-Down
- 13 Like some roofs and claws
- 15 Berth places
- 16 God with a hammer
- 18 Sanction
- 21 Serengeti cat
- 22 Oil field strike
- 24 Hockey's Bobby
- 25 Collection
- 26 Water, in France
- 27 Course unit
- 29 Audition goal
- 30 Glade grazer
- 31 Tops
- 32 Labor leader Chavez
- 34 Difficult to manage
- 40 Ascend
- 41 Reach
- 42 Petty fight
- 43 Not optional

DOWN

- 1 Fragrant tree



Yesterday's answer



3-7

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-7

CRYPTOQUOTE

L I X Q T G Q B W X B H D F G K L X G

K W L B N X X Q P K E K R K Y D L K B M

H G B J C X W I G B V K M O K L W X R I L

— D R A X G L P D J T W

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: LET ME LIVE, LOVE, AND SAY IT WELL IN GOOD SENTENCES. — SYLVIA PLATH

Liz Weston: How your ex could boost your Social Security

By LIZ WESTON
of NerdWallet

Katja Rivera, 64, is a massage therapist and theater director in Berkeley, California, who says she's never earned more than about \$30,000 a year. When her two daughters were small, she sometimes earned much less. But Rivera was married for 10 years to a man who has consistently earned much more than she has. When Rivera re-retires in a few years, she expects to receive a Social Security check based on her ex's greater earnings. Many divorced people don't realize they can get Social Security benefits derived from their ex-spouse's work history, says William Meyer, founder of Social Security Solutions, a website that helps people determine when and how to claim Social Security. Those who are aware of the benefits often misunderstand crucial details and can make decisions that cost them tens of thousands of dollars over their lifetimes, he says. Here are the basics: You may qualify for benefits based on your ex's work record if your marriage lasted at least 10 years. Any benefit you receive won't affect the amounts your ex, your ex's current spouse or any of your ex's other ex-spouses will receive.

However, the rules for these benefits depend on whether your ex is alive or dead.

WHEN YOUR EX IS ALIVE: DIVORCED SPOUSAL BENEFITS

If your ex is still alive and you haven't remarried, you may qualify for divorced spousal benefits. This benefit could be up to 50% of what the ex would get at

full retirement age, which is currently between age 66 and 67. You would get a divorced spousal benefit only if it's greater than the amount you've earned

on your own work record when you apply. Social Security pays the higher of the two amounts — not both. Divorced spousal benefits end if you remarry. □

Classifieds

Aruba Divi Phoenix

Palm Beach
1 BR WK # 13 room # 763
26 weeks remain
Price :\$ 15 K
Call:011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

La Quinta Beach Resort

Eagle Beach
2 BR WK #9 room #212
Ocean view
Price :\$12K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Divi Village

Eagle Beach
Studio week # 13 room # 6206
Studio week #14 room # 6205
18 weeks remain on each
Price \$7 K each
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Dutch Village

Eagle Beach
1 BR week # 8 room#94
20 weeks remain expire 2037
Price :\$8 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Divi Village

Eagle Beach
2 BR WK # 13 room # 3512
28 weeks remain expire :2036
Price :\$12 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK # 12 room # 1328
Price : \$ 7 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Divi Village

Eagle beach
Floating weeks Platinum
2 x studio \$6 K each
22 weeks remain each
1 Bedroom\$7 K
16 weeks remain
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

For Sale

Noord
Commercial land to build
Restaurant,
Motel , or more property land at
Shaba
Matadera , 3500 m
Price :\$120 m2
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Aruba Eagle Resort

Eagle beach
1 BR WK # 8 room # 4561
Saturday check in 4th floor
Pool / View
Price :\$9 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle Beach
1 BR WK 12/13/14 room # 1435
\$8400 each
1 BR WK 12 room # 1233 \$7200
1 BR WK 13/14 room # 1235
\$7200 each
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Aruba Eagle Resort

Eagle Beach
2 BR week 9,10,11,12 room # 2544
Sunday check in
Waterfall pool view
Price :\$18K each
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Honey Dolls
MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

Beautiful Latin Girls
Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

+297 565-9535

WWW.PLEASUREINARUBA.COM

24/7

Classifieds

Dutch Village

Eagle Beach
1 BR WK 8 Room # 14
6 full accelerated weeks
Contract expire :
Price \$5 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Casa Del Mar

Eagle Beach
2 BR WK#9 and 10 room #1302
Ocean view \$20 K each
1 BR WK#9 and 10 room #1329
Pool /view \$8 K each
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Dutch Village

Eagle Beach
Studio WK # 12 room #33
30 weeks remain
Price :\$7 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Divi Village Golf

Eagle Beach
1 BR WK #9 room # 4117
18 weeks remain
Price : \$ 8 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

For Sale By Owner

Aruba Beach Club
week 28Unit#111
ground floor
Call: 582-2320 - 592 8072

216364

For Sale By Owner

Wk 10 Divi Links Golf & Beach
Rm 2301 1Br/2Ba RTU:Exp2044
+10 Accelerated Sleeps 4 \$7500
Wk 9 Divi Little T. RTU:Exp2044
Rm 621 1Br/2Ba RTU:Exp2044
Exp2044
+10 Accelerated Sleeps 4 \$4500
Ritchey5652@comcast.net

216297

Casa Del Mar 2BR/2B:

Week 2/Unit 1113 (18k);
Week 5/Unit 1315 (20k);
Week 8/Unit 1113 (19k);
Week 8/Unit 1409 (19k);
Week 10/Unit 1207 (17k);
Week 13/Unit 1509 (14k);
Week 14/Unit 1308 (14k); and,
Week 15/Unit 1217 (10k).
CDMOwner@gmail.com
US(Call/Text): (860)992-3890

216163

Casa Del Mar

Eagle beach
2 BR WK # 1205
Ocean view
Price :\$ 20 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Condo for sale

Atlantic 360
20 new construction right
On eagle beach
3 and 4 BR prices starting from \$900K
For more info call:011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Renaissance Ocean Suites

Private Islands
1 BR deluxe
WK # 10 Room # 2353
Ocean Front
Price :\$10 K
Call:011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

House For sale

Alto Vista Noord
2 BR , 2 Bath fully furnished
With and apartment Ocean view
Price \$550 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Condo

Gold Coast Wespunt
3 BR , 3 Bath
Fully furnished
Price \$480 K
Call:011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

House for sale

Palm Beach
3BR 2 Bath with one apartment
5 min walk to the beach
Price :\$550K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

HTTA

Time - Share Resale
Are you interested in sell your Timeshare in Aruba
Contacts the expert 37 Years
Of doing Honest business on the Islands
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

House For sale

Beach Front Malmok
6 BR 6 bath
Price :\$3 Million
Call:011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Condo for sale

Bubali Noord
2 BR 2bath town house
5 min drive to eagle beach
Price :\$275K
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Divi Village Golf

Eagle beach
1 Bedr WK 9 room # 2118
Studio WK 9 room # 2117
22 weeks remain each
Price : 1 BR \$8 K Stu \$ 7 K
Call:011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Divi Village

Eagle Beach
Studio WK #7 and 8 room #3405
12/14 weeks remain on the contract
Price :6K each
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Divi Village

Eagle Beach
Studio WK #9 room#3307 \$6K
14 weeks remain on the contract
Studio WK #10 room #3203 \$6K
10 weeks remain on the contract
Call :0 11-297-6301307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Marriott Surf Club

Palm beach
2 BR ,2 Bath Platinum
Ocean Side (light house building)
Price: \$19 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

216300



Editor
Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Editors

Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks
Angenette Figuereo

Sales

Mark Gomes
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800
E: news@arubatoday.com
W: www.arubatoday.com
f @arubatoday



HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel.524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:
del Pueblo Tel. 582 1253
San Nicolas:
San Lucas Tel. 584 5919

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



'Dilbert,' Scott Adams draw ire from fellow cartoonists

By **MARK KENNEDY**

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Cartoonists are pushing back against racist remarks made by "Dilbert" creator Scott Adams, with one artist even using his own strip this week to lampoon the disgraced cartoon now dropped by newspapers nationwide.

Darrin Bell is transforming his strip "Candorville" — which usually features young Black and Latino characters — into a way to address Adams' racism by mimicking the look and style of "Dilbert," complete with wayward necktie.

"The only reason anyone knows who Scott Adams is because of the comics page. So I thought somebody on the comics page should respond to him on the comics page," Bell, the 2019 winner of the Pulitzer Prize for illustrated reporting and commentary, told The Associated Press.

In the strips running Monday to Saturday, Bell paired Dilbert with one of his own characters, Lemont Brown. In one, Dilbert hopes Lemont will side with him in his quest to get a laundry room installed at work.

"You could wash your hoodie," says Dilbert. Responds Lemont: "And you could wash your hood?"

Adams, who is white, was



Scott Adams, creator of the comic strip Dilbert, talks about his work at his studio in Dublin, Calif., on Oct. 26, 2006.

an outspoken — and controversial — presence on social media long before describing Black people as a "hate group" on YouTube last month. Adams repeatedly referred to people who are Black as members of a "hate group" and said he would no longer "help Black Americans." He later said he was being hyperbolic, yet continued to defend his stance.

"When somebody goes too far like Scott Adams did, everyone who knows better should stand up and use their First Amendment

to draw a line — to say that this is unacceptable," said Bell, whose new graphic novel "The Talk" explores growing up as a biracial man in white culture.

Other cartoonists have stepped forward to denounce Adams, like Bill Holbrook, the creator of "On the Fastrack," a strip that features an interracial family and — like "Dilbert" — focuses on a modern workplace. "One of the things I wanted to spotlight with my characters is that people do rise above their differences. It can work," Hol-

brook said. "That's the spotlight I wanted to focus on and still do. It's all a matter of where you want to put your focus." Holbrook said the Adams case is not one of so-called cancel culture but of consequences.

"I am in full support with him saying anything he wants to, but then he has to own the consequences of saying them," he said. "He's not being canceled. He's experiencing the consequences of expressing his views." Individual newspapers have dropped "Dilbert" and Adams' dis-

tributor, Andrews McMeel Universal, said it was severing ties with the cartoonist. While some outlets replaced "Dilbert" with another strip, The Sun Chronicle in Attleboro, Massachusetts, decided to keep the space blank through March "as a reminder of the racism that pervades our society." The "Dilbert" controversy has rocked a community of daily cartoonists who often create work in their homes several months ahead of publication. While reliably pro-free speech, they say they're also orientated toward a better future — or at least a chuckle.

"We believe comics are a powerful medium and that cartoonists should perpetuate laughter, not racism and hate," said Tea Fougner, editor in chief of King Features Syndicate — which distributes such strips as "Candorville," "Zits," "Mutts" and "Dennis the Menace" — in a statement to the AP. "We are proud of our cartoonists who are using their platforms to denounce the hatred spread by Scott Adams and encourage others to join us as we stand together as a community to keep the world of cartooning a safe and welcoming space for everyone," the statement said. □

Associated Press



A Twitter logo hangs outside the company's offices in San Francisco, on Dec. 19, 2022.

Associated Press

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Twitter experienced a bevy of glitches for over an hour

Monday as links stopped working, some users were unable to log in and images were not loading for

Twitter glitches as links, images fail to load

others.

The company, which has experienced an uptick of instability and bugs in recent months after Elon Musk cut its staff sharply, said "Some parts of Twitter may not be working as expected right now. We made an internal change that had some unintended consequences."

Trying to visit Twitter's help page Monday led to an error message that says "Your current API plan does not include access to this endpoint" and displays a link to a software developer page that also doesn't work.

Musk tweeted Monday: "This platform is so brittle (sigh). Will be fixed shortly."

The company tweeted shortly after 10 a.m. Pacific time on Monday that it had addressed the issue.

According to Downdetector, users began reporting the outages shortly before noon U.S. Eastern time. Internet access watchdog NetBlocks said "Twitter is currently experiencing international slowdowns and outages affecting many users," and noted that it was also affecting image and video content. Some users were not able to see the images that other users were posting.

Twitter engineers and experts have warned that the platform is at an increased risk of fraying since Musk

fired most of the people who worked on keeping it running. Last month, a bug left users unable to send tweets.

In November, engineers who left Twitter described for The Associated Press why they expect a bumpy road for Twitter's more than 230 million users now that well over two-thirds of the San Francisco company's pre-Musk core services engineers are gone.

While they don't anticipate near-term collapse, the engineers said Twitter could become very rough at the edges — especially if Musk makes major changes without much off-platform testing. □

Ex-Raider Derek Carr agrees to 4-year contract with Saints

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Former Raiders quarterback Derek Carr has agreed to a four-year contract with the New Orleans Saints, and a person familiar with the situation said the deal could be worth up to \$150 million. The person spoke to The Associated Press about the contract's value on condition of anonymity Monday because financial terms were not released when the Saints announced their agreement with Carr.

"Derek's experience, leadership and skillset will be an asset to our offense," Saints general manager Mickey Loomis said.

Carr played nine seasons for the Raiders and holds club records for yards passing (35,222) and touchdown passes (217). But after struggling late last season, Carr was benched with two games remaining. Carr, who turns 32 on March 28, was released by Las Vegas on Feb. 14 after he declined to waive the no-trade clause in his contract. Las Vegas needed to trade or release him by that date or \$40.4 million of his contract over the next two years would have become fully guaranteed.



AFC quarterback Derek Carr (4) of the Las Vegas Raiders looks to pass during the flag football event at the NFL Pro Bowl, Sunday, Feb. 5, 2023, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

The knock on Carr was that his tenure as the Raiders' starting QB produced just two playoff appearances and no postseason victories. Now he will have an opportunity in New Orleans to demonstrate that he can get better results with a different organization.

Carr indicated during the week of the Pro Bowl that a talk with Peyton Manning

encouraged him to explore free agency. The Indianapolis Colts released Manning in 2012 and he went on to win a Super Bowl with the Denver Broncos after the 2015 season.

"I'm just looking for teams that have made that decision consistently that they'll do whatever it takes to put a winning program out there," Carr said on Feb. 2.

"So for me, that's just to win, win a championship. That's at the forefront of the mind. It's not money."

Since 2006, the Saints have made the playoffs nine times and won a Super Bowl, but all of those postseason appearances came with franchise all-time passer Drew Brees as quarterback and Sean Payton as coach. Now

Brees is retired and Payton is with the Denver Broncos. Saints coach Dennis Allen was the Raiders' coach when the club selected Carr in the second round of the 2014 draft out of Fresno State. Allen coached Carr for four games before he was fired that year.

"In addition to his talent, I admired his approach to the game, work ethic and commitment to get better every day in what were the formative stages of his career," Allen said. "From afar and when we played him as an opponent, I saw Derek's development into one of the most productive quarterbacks in the National Football League."

The signing should provide a measure of stability for the Saints at an all-important position that was shrouded in uncertainty following the club's 7-10 2022 season.

Jameis Winston is under contract with Saints through 2023, but New Orleans could release him. His contract calls for a base salary of \$12.8 million next season and he played in just three games in 2022 before losing his job — in part because of a back injury — to Andy Dalton. □

No timetable for Ja Morant's return during 'healing process'

By **BETH HARRIS**
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — There's no timetable for Ja Morant to return to the Memphis Grizzlies, and the All-Star guard knows he's made "difficult decisions and poor choices" that he has to be accountable for, coach Taylor Jenkins said Sunday night.

Morant was not with the team in Los Angeles for games against the Clippers on Sunday and the Lakers on Tuesday while the NBA investigates a social media post in which Morant appeared to be holding a gun.

"Very tough moment, for sure," Jenkins said of the video.

Morant streamed the video on his Instagram account early Saturday of himself holding what appeared

to be a gun at a nightclub, hours after playing in Denver. He said in a statement through the agency that represents him that he takes "full responsibility" for his actions and that he was going to "take some time away to get help."

On Monday, police in Colorado said they were investigating Morant's actions and whether he may have broken any laws. Morant's video is believed to have been filmed in Glendale, a small enclave surrounded by Denver and known for its strip clubs and shopping centers.

Capt. Jamie Dillon said police did not receive any calls or complaints about Morant's actions but began looking into them Saturday after learning about the video circulating online.

The Grizzlies coach said

Morant understands he's made "some difficult decisions and poor choices in the past."

"He's definitely embracing the mistakes that he's made, but only time will tell," Jenkins said. "We're going to support him and we're going to hold him accountable to make those changes."

Jenkins declined to outline the steps Morant needs to take to rejoin the team, saying: "We love him, we want what's best for him, we support him. It's going to be a difficult process but we've got a great group to get through this."

He called it "an ongoing healing process."

The league, if it finds wrongdoing, could fine or suspend Morant.

Morant also was the subject of a league investiga-



Memphis Grizzlies guard Ja Morant, center, is caught with the ball between Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic (15), guard Kentavious Caldwell-Pope and forward Aaron Gordon (50) during the second half of an NBA basketball game Friday, March 3, 2023, in Denver.

Associated Press

tion after a Jan. 29 incident in Memphis that he said led to a friend of his being banned from home games for a year. That incident occurred after a game against the Indiana Pac-

ers. Multiple media outlets reported that members of the Pacers saw a red dot pointed at them, and a team security guard believed the laser was attached to a gun. □

Kurt Kitayama breaks through in wild finish at Bay Hill

By **DOUG FERGUSON**

AP Golf Writer

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Kurt Kitayama only had to look around at the players next to him in the practice area and right below him on the leaderboard at Bay Hill to know what he was up against Sunday in the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

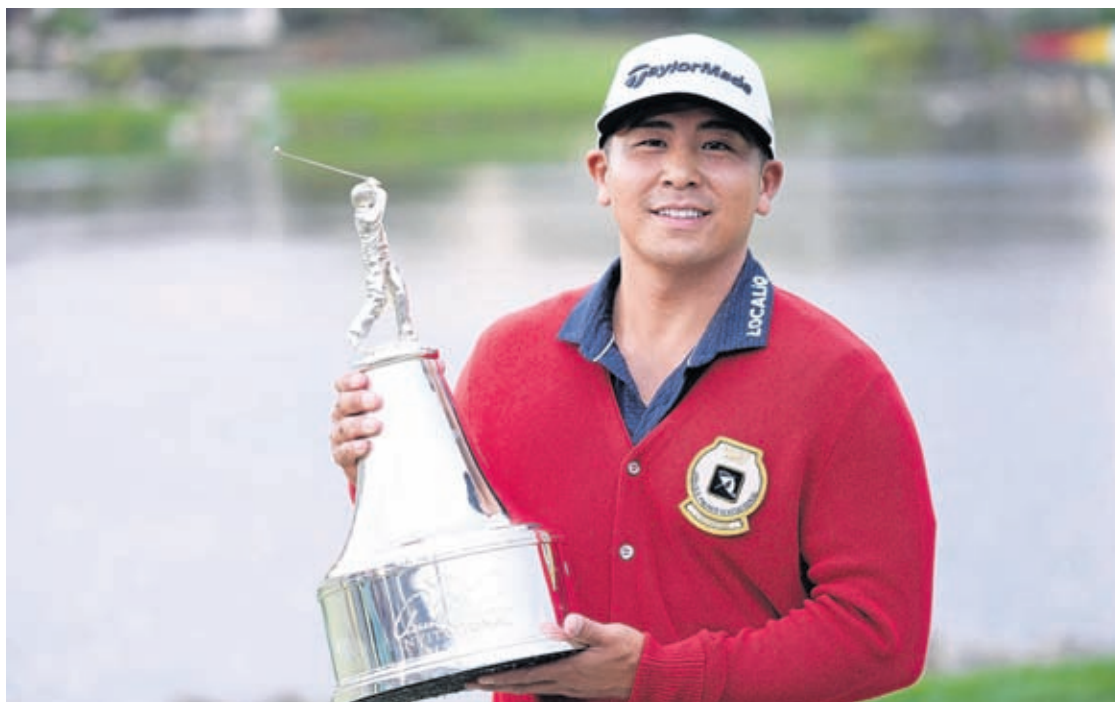
"You can't ignore it. You got to know where you're at and you know who is there and just embrace the whole situation, I guess," Kitayama said after a final two hours of pure theater for his first PGA Tour win.

He got the result he desperately wanted in a fashion he never imagined.

First came the wild tee shot that sailed out-of-bounds on the ninth hole that led to triple bogey and let an All-Star cast — Rory McIlroy, Jordan Spieth, Scottie Scheffler, Tyrrell Hatton and Harris English — back into the tournament.

And then the 30-year-old Californian, who has played on 11 tours around the world to hone his game, delivered the winner.

Part of a five-way tie for the lead with three holes to play, he drilled a 6-iron to just inside 15 feet on the par-3 17th and holed it for birdie to take the lead. From the gnarly rough left of the 18th fairway, he gouged an 8-iron onto the green to 50 feet. Needing two putts to win, the first one stopped an inch from the cup.



Kurt Kitayama holds the championship trophy after winning the Arnold Palmer Invitational golf tournament Sunday, March 5, 2023, in Orlando, Fla.

Associated Press

The tap-in for an even-par 72 was the easiest shot he faced all day, giving him a one-shot win over McIlroy and English.

The soft-spoken Kitayama was due. Over the last year he finished one shot behind to Jon Rahm in Mexico, to Xander Schauffele in Scotland, to McIlroy in South Carolina.

This time, he beat them all. "I think just a little bit of luck finally went my way," Kitayama said. "When it's that close at the top, that's what you need. Anyone probably could have won it. Luckily, it just happened to be me."

He finished at 9-under 279 and earned \$3.6 million, moving to No. 19 in the

world.

McIlroy roared into the mix with four birdies in a five-hole stretch around the turn, took on a shot he didn't need because he didn't realize he was tied for the lead on the 14th, and ultimately missed a 10-foot birdie putt on the final hole and shot 70.

English remarkably went bogey-free on brittle Bay Hill for the entire weekend. He missed an 18-foot birdie putt on the last hole for a 70.

"I know Kurt more from European tour stuff," McIlroy said. "But he's done really well. He's persevered and played wherever he could get starts and all of a sudden he's won one of the

biggest events on the PGA Tour. So good for him."

Scheffler was a foot away from having a close look at birdie on the 18th and a chance to take the lead. Instead, his ball spun back into the rough, his chip came out weakly and he finished with a bogey for a 73.

"I wish I played a little bit better, but at the end of the day I put up a good fight," Scheffler said. "But Kurt played fantastic golf today. I think to birdie 17 and par 18 to finish and win by one is pretty special."

Spieth was among six players who had at least a share of the lead over the final two hours. He missed four straight putts inside 8

feet from the 14th through the 17th holes — three of them for par. After taking the lead with a 15-foot birdie putt on the 13th hole, he played his last five holes in 3 over.

"I wouldn't have hit any of the putts differently. I hit my line on every single one of them. I misread all four by just barely," Spieth said.

Spieth (70), Scheffler Patrick Cantlay (68) and Hatton (72) all finished two shots behind.

They all had a chance, mostly because of one swing. Kitayama had a two-shot lead when he hit a wild hook out-of-bounds on the ninth hole, leading to triple bogey.

"It went south on 9," Kitayama said. "All of a sudden, I'm not leading any more. I just fought back hard, and I'm proud of myself for that." The finish kept everyone guessing, especially when there was a five-way tie for the lead deep in the round, all of them one swing or one putt away from potentially winning.

"I certainly felt it on the golf course, so I'm sure it was pretty good to watch," McIlroy said. "It's hard because the lead was changing hands with guys making bogeys, not really making birdies. So don't know how people find that entertainment value."

"But it was a great back nine. It was great to be involved with," he said. "I'm really happy for Kurt. He's been playing well for a while now and I'm happy to see him get his first win."

Of the top seven players, all of them have either won majors or played in the Ryder Cup. The exception is Kitayama, who groomed himself for a moment like this with so many close calls against players with polished pedigrees.

Kitayama, who played at UNLV, didn't find much success on the Korn Ferry Tour and took his trade overseas to the Asian Tour and European tour, along with stops in Canada, South Africa, China, Korea, Japan, the PGA Tour of Australasia and the Asian Development Tour.

Djokovic withdraws after failed bid to play Indian Wells



Serbia's Novak Djokovic returns the ball to Daniil Medvedev during their semi final match of the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Friday, March 2, 2023.

Associated Press

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (AP) —

Top-ranked Novak Djokovic has withdrawn from the upcoming BNP Paribas Open, having lost his bid to enter the United States unvaccinated to play in the Southern California event. The tournament announced his withdrawal on Sunday night. Play in the combined ATP-WTA event begins Wednesday at Indian Wells Tennis Garden and runs through March 19. Sen. Rick Scott, R-Fla., said on Twitter that Homeland Security had rejected Djokovic's vaccine waiver

request, which would have allowed him to play back-to-back at Indian Wells and Miami, which runs March 19-April 2.

The U.S. is ending its COVID-19 emergency declaration on May 11, which will allow foreign air travelers to enter the country without being vaccinated.

The 22-time Grand Slam champion lost in the semifinals of the Dubai Tennis Championships on Friday. With Djokovic out, Nikoloz Basilashvili moved into the Indian Wells draw.